



GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

April 27, 2011, Meeting

Whiteman Airport

12653 Osborne Street

Pacoima, CA 91331-2104

(818) 896-5271

COMMISSIONERS

ANGELO R. CARDONO
CHAIRMAN

CLINTON SIMMONS
VICE-CHAIRMAN

DENNIS C. LORD
SECRETARY

EVELYN JEROME ALEXANDER
MEMBER

PETER AMUNDSON
MEMBER

GEORGE G. BUTTS
MEMBER

BOBBY E. CHASE
MEMBER

PENELOPE CORNWALL
MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
MEMBER

ARON A. WOLF
MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Angelo R. Cardono
Vice Chairman Clinton Simmons
Secretary Dennis C. Lord
Commissioner Bobby E. Chase
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner George G. Butts
Commissioner Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Evelyn Jerome Alexander

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Aron A. Wolf
Commissioner Penelope Cornwall

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Richard L. Smith, Chief, Aviation Division
Mr. George Gomez, Staff Assistant, Aviation Division

AMERICAN AIRPORTS - AIRPORT SERVICES DIVISION STAFF

Mr. Scott Wardle, Regional Director
Mr. Rafael Herrera, Manager, Compton/Woodley Airport
Mr. Cyle Woodruff, Manager, Brackett Field Airport
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport
Mr. Chris Brooks, Manager, El Monte Airport
Mr. Steve Irving, Manager, General Wm. J. Fox Airfield

GUESTS

Mr. Jason Morgan, Assistant Chief, Aviation Division
Mr. Ralph Truglio, Explorer Kittyhawk Squadron 3
Mrs. Nancy Truglio, Optimist Club of North Hollywood
Ms. Shirley Norby
Mr. Don Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association

Mrs. Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association
Mr. Jack Kenton, Compton/Woodley Airport

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cardono called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Cardono led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. February 23, and March 30, 2011, Minutes

The minutes of February 23, and March 30, 2011, were unanimously carried and approved.

B. American Airports Corporation - Project Manager Report

Mr. Scott Wardle reported on American Airports Corporation's (AAC) 5-year management contract extension. He stated that the contract extension commenced April 1, 2011. Mr. Wardle elaborated further that AAC has recently received a large volume of phone calls inquiring about the possibility of using airport facilities for film productions. In addition, he reported that in the last two months, AAC received \$30,000 in fees from film productions at the County of Los Angeles (County) airports.

Mr. Chris Brooks reported on El Monte Airport events

- **Presentation**

Mr. Brooks provided the Los Angeles County Aviation Commission (Commission) with a PowerPoint presentation overview of the aircraft rescue and fire-fighting drill conducted by AAC and the County's Fire Department at the airport on March 31, 2011.

- **Management and Maintenance**

- 1) The first round of hangar inspections is complete.
- 2) The floors in the airport terminal building were waxed and polished.
- 3) Weed abatement throughout the airport is ongoing.
- 4) The airport's fire-fighting truck was recertified.

- **Projects**

A meeting was held on April 4, 2011, with representatives of the County, AAC, and the City of El Monte to discuss trimming/removing the trees at the Rio Vista Park, which are penetrating the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulation Part 77, 7:1 Transitional Surfaces.

- **Development and Activities**

- 1) The airport has a 12-percent vacancy rate.
- 2) The airport sold 11,956 gallons of Avgas fuel and 2,292 gallons of Jet-A fuel in March 2011.

- **Meetings and Events**

- 1) On March 26, 2011, an Antique Custom and Hot Rod Display event was held at the airport.
- 2) On March 27, 2011, a Pilot Fly-In and Static Aircraft Display day will be held at the airport.

- **Miscellaneous**

On April 4, 2011, a Cessna 182 collided with the door of Hangar C-18. No injuries were reported, but the aircraft was severely damaged. Repairs to the hangar are underway.

Mr. Cyle Woodruff reported on Brackett Field Airport events

- **Management and Maintenance**

- 1) Staff continued keeping lights and signs clear of weeds.
- 2) A recently damaged hangar was repaired with a new sheet of corrugated metal.
- 3) One of the airport's aircraft rescue and fire-fighting (ARFF) vehicles was repaired.
- 4) Staff is seeking quotes from vendors for the installation of a 50-foot wide rolling gate intended to create an impound area for aircraft.
- 5) Airport management and the City of La Verne Fire Department are currently coordinating an aircraft rescue and fire-fighting drill. The tentative date is set for May 11, 2011.

- **Projects**

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Sheriff's Department) started the installation of four new concrete helipads on their leasehold.

- **Development and Activities**

- 1) The airport currently has 6,000 square feet of commercial space and 4,000 square feet of office space available for rent.
- 2) The Sheriff's Department expressed interest in leasing the available commercial space located next to their existing leasehold.
- 3) Aircraft operations and fuel sales for April 2011 are down 20 percent from last year.

- **Meetings and Events**

- 1) The Brackett Airport Association meeting is scheduled for the first Thursday of each month at the airport pilot's lounge.
- 2) The San Gabriel Valley 99s will be hosting a Poker Run event on May 14, 2011.
- 3) The Wings of Freedom Tour will be held at Brackett Field Airport from April 27th to April 29th, 2011.

- **Miscellaneous**

Eagle Scout candidate Nikolas Smaldrige set up a donation box at the Brackett Field Airport terminal building for new baby supplies and toys to benefit the House of Ruth Pregnancy Care Center in Cottonwood, Arizona.

Mr. Steve Irving reported on General Wm. J. Fox Airfield events

- Repairs were made to several damaged hangar roofs and the airport's firehouse roof.
- Hangar inspections were completed last week.
- Repairs to the airport's underground fuel storage tank are ongoing.
- The daily Boeing flight out of the airport will cease early next week.
- The Runway Safety Action Team is scheduled to visit the airport on May 23 and 24, 2011.

Mr. Rafael Herrera reported on Compton/Woodley Airport events

- **Management and Maintenance**

- 1) All aircraft tiedowns have been painted, and the airport has an additional 142 tiedown spaces available for rent.
- 2) A light was installed by the wind tee to improve visibility.
- 3) Staff continues its weed abatement efforts throughout the airport.
- 4) Fixtures were replaced at the men's public restrooms.

- **Projects**
 - 1) A new pilot controlled lighting system was installed and is working properly.
 - 2) The perimeter road fence project is ongoing and scheduled to be completed within a week or two.
- **Development and Activities**

Fire extinguisher recertification is scheduled for May 9, 2011.

Hangar inspections are scheduled to begin May 2, 2011.

Vice Chairman Simmons inquired if anyone is monitoring the wind tee at night. Mr. Herrera stated that the wind tee is monitored by airport staff 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Secretary Lord commented that the City of Compton expressed that airport staff is doing an outstanding job in maintaining the appearance of the airport outside the fence.

Mr. Andrew Marino reported on Whiteman events

- **Management and Maintenance**
 - 1) The first round of hangar inspections is complete with a total of 338 hangars inspected.
 - 2) The lights for the flags in the public viewing area were repaired.
 - 3) The fuel meter lights on the Avgas truck were replaced.
 - 4) In response to requests received in the recent airport customer service survey, a total of four hangar doors were repaired.
 - 5) The water hose at the wash rack was replaced with a 75-foot, consistent-industrial-strength hose as requested by several airport tenants.
- **Development and Activities**
 - 1) The Southern California Gas Company replaced the gas lines from Osborne Street to the airport administration building.
 - 2) Two backflow devices are being replaced.
 - 3) Jet-A fuel sales for 2011 are down 2.1 percent, and Avgas fuel sales are up 3.2 percent from the same period in 2010.
 - 4) Airport year-to-date operations are up 0.3 percent from the same period in 2010.
- **Meetings and Events**
 - 1) On April 14, 2011, the County's Weights and Measures Department recertified the airport refueling trucks and dispensers.

- 2) The California Department of Transportation conducted their State Permit Compliance Inspection on Friday April 15, 2011. The runway and taxiways were in good condition. No major safety issues requiring correction were reported.
- 3) Whiteman Airport hosted several recent film/television shoots. On April 20 and 21, 2011, ABC conducted filming at multiple locations around the airport.
- 4) Today, R.D. White Elementary School children are visiting the airport, and AAC staff is providing them with the opportunity to observe closely the airport and aircraft.
- 5) On May 6, 2011, Whiteman Airport will be manning a booth at the 6th Annual Aviation Career Day Expo at Van Nuys Airport. The event will take place from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Syncro Hangar.

C. County Contract Administrator's Report – Mr. Richard Smith

The Commission was provided with copies of the March 2011 expense and revenue report, and Mr. Smith offered to answer any questions.

Vice Chairman Simmons inquired about the expenses listed under Noise Monitoring, County Counsel, and memberships. Mr. Smith stated that noise monitoring expenses are payments to the consultant who monitors and prepares the reports. These expenses are reimbursed from the Board-designated noise problem airports. On reference to County Counsel expenses, Mr. Smith indicated that County Counsel is involved with various projects and leases. In addition, membership charges include the Contract Tower Program and various professional organizations that management participates.

Mr. Smith updated the Commission on the following subjects:

- Informed the Commission that URS, the consulting company for the Empire Interchange/Interstate 5 Improvement project, has been in communication with the County to discuss the possibility of utilizing up to 250,000 cubic yards of dirt from the hill at Whiteman Airport.
- Provided the Commission with an invitation from the Quality and Productivity Commission to attend a Commissioners' Leadership Conference on May 12, 2011.
- Updated the Commission on the retail development on Osborne Street near Whiteman Airport. He stated that there has been no further development at the site, and the FAA has not made public any determination.

- Reminded the Commission and attendees that the County is still collecting Airport Customer Service Surveys and will continue until the first week of May 2011.

In addition, Mr. Smith updated the Commission on the following capital improvement projects:

- Preliminary field surveying at El Monte Airport has begun for the Airport Pavement Assessment project. After completing the survey at El Monte Airport, the consultant will begin a preliminary field survey at Brackett Field Airport, which is anticipated to start in the next few weeks.
- The Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) coordinator and a representative from the Department of Public Works' Information Technology Division completed the frequency field testing for the Automated Weather Observation Systems (AWOS) at Brackett Field, Compton/Woodley, El Monte, and Whiteman Airports. APCO is filing the official applications with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to obtain the respective licenses.
- A prebid meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2011, for the Brackett Field Airport Slurry Seal Runway and North Taxiway project.
- Chapters 1 through 3 of the General Wm. J. Fox Airfield Master Plan Update are posted and available on the Commission's website. The consultant is near completion of the draft alternatives analysis Chapter 5.
- A prebid meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2011, for the Whiteman Airport Slurry Seal Northwest Aircraft Parking Ramp project.
- The County anticipates obtaining Board approval by the end of May 2011 for the Whiteman Airport Aircraft Parking Ramp project.
- The County anticipates receiving the draft noise report section of the Whiteman Airport Master Plan Update in the upcoming weeks.

D. Whiteman Airport Additional Items

Mr. Jason Morgan provided the Commission with an update on the Minimum Standards project. The County hosted a meeting with commercial tenants at Whiteman Airport on April 12, 2011. After updating the Minimum Standards to incorporate recommendations provided by the commercial tenants, the documents for Whiteman Airport will be finalized. The County will subsequently proceed with drafting the Minimum Standards for the remaining four airports.

E. Resolution

Commissioner Jerome Alexander presented Mr. Ralph Truglio with a Commendation for Exemplary Service Resolution from the Los Angeles County Aviation Commission.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Mr. Don Hagopian expressed concern about the impact that the Airport Minimum Standards would have on the small businesses.

Mr. Jack Kenton informed the Commission that the request to change the Airport Noise and Capacity Act was defeated in the U.S. Congress. He also inquired about the status of the AWOS project at Compton/Woodley Airport.

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING

**Wednesday, May 25, 2011, 7 p.m.
El Monte Airport
4233 Santa Anita Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731-1670
(626) 448-6129**

Chairman Cardono adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m. in honor of Mr. Ralph Truglio.

Respectfully submitted,

Angelo R. Cardono, Chairman
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

GG:

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